

Revelation_21

1] And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. **2]** And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. **3]** And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying: Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. **4]** And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. **5]** And he that sat upon the throne said: Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. **6]** And he said unto me: It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. **7]** He that overcomes shall inherit all things; I will be his God, and he shall be my son. **8]** But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone: which is the second death. **9]** And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying: Come hither, I will show thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. **10]** And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, **11]** Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; **12]** And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: **13]** on the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. **14]** And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. **15]** And he that talked with me

had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. **16]** And the city lies foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. **17]** And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. **18]** The building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. **19]** The foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The 1st foundation was jasper; the 2nd, a sapphire; the 3rd, a chalcedony; the 4th, an emerald; **20]** the 5th, sardonyx; the 6th, sardius; the 7th, chrysolite; the 8th, beryl; the 9th, a topaz; the 10th, a chrysoprasus; the 11th, a jacinth; 12th, an amethyst. **21]** The twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it ware transparent glass. **22]** I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb is the temple of it. **23]** The city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. **24]** The nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it. **25]** The gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. **26]** They shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it. **27]** There shall in no wise enter into it anything that defiles, neither whatsoever works abomination, or makes a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

1] *I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.* From the beginning of the Holy Scriptures to the last words in this Revelation, we are given many messages with physical and spiritual meaning and significance; sometimes mainly physical meaning; at times mainly spiritual. Our Lord was teaching important spiritual facts using plain human language; some men understood Him, others did not. Sincere disciples of our Savior understood His teaching to the extent of being able to see their need of

asking questions. They learned the meaning and significance of the lessons He presented to them in words and demonstrated in deeds. He revealed to them many wrong traditional interpretations of God's Word and pointed out to them their need to improve. In the beginning of our Master's teaching the opposition of His teaching refused to turn from their evil ways to the Gospel Truth in the matters within the frame of their understanding. Their understanding turned dimmer, then dark, and in the end, they became His staunch enemies and murderers. True disciples need learning as long as they journey. In the Acts 21: 10-14 we see godliness in practice.

After Paul and his helpers tarried in Caesarea many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus. When he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus says the Holy Ghost: So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owns this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles. When we heard these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem. Then Paul answered: What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus. When he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying: The will of the Lord be done. What united the disciples was not identical experience, knowledge, or education. What brings them into the unity of Christ's Spirit is the strong desire that *the will of the Lord be done*. That was the difference between the lifetime learners of the Everlasting Gospel and, the perverted minds of carnal men. Our Lord says: Ask and you shall receive. Seek to find. I pray our Lord for His Spirit's guidance in expounding the last two chapters of this Revelation. I have prayed all the time for each segment of every chapter, and I am grateful for many corrections and His guidance so far. Considering these -last two - chapters of this book and of the entire Holy Scripture, I sense a greater need to avoid many pitfalls of carnality. I have heard so many superstitions and imaginations claiming these chapters as the base and proof of their correctness.

1] *I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.* Since the time John saw this vision all three parts of this verse are still in place: the ‘first’ heaven, earth and sea have not passed away. This vision predicts the future and enlightens our mind to look forward to God’s full victory. In Genesis 6: 7 our LORD said: *I will **destroy man** whom I have created **from the face of the earth**...* In the verse 13 God says unto Noah: *I will destroy them **with the earth**.* In 9: 11 I [, God,] *will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there anymore be a flood to **destroy the earth**.* In our **Lord’s Day** *the heavens shall pass away with a great noise and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. All these things shall be dissolved, in the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat.* [2nd Peter 3:10-12] The words: dissolve, melt, & burn indicate **some degree of destruction; not always complete – permanent – wiping out.** As awesome as Bible revelations are, and beholding them, as exciting as it can be, my perception is that the main purpose, meaning and significance of the revealed visions is our **admonition** and encouragement **to trust and obey** our Creator and Savior, our **Lord Jesus Christ**. The temporal becomes secondary to us **if we see the new heaven and earth.**

Like the two coins to the poor widow and to the martyrs their own life, to us this life with all its potential is worthy **only** as much as we can invest it in our Lord’s cause and purpose [Mark 12: 42-44; Acts 21: 13]. *Revelation 13: 1-2* tell us: *John stood upon the sand of **the sea**, and saw a beast rise up out of **the sea**, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. The beast which he saw was like unto a leopard, with feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion. **The dragon gave evil power, his seat, and great authority to that beast.** 17: 15 added: *The **waters** which you saw, where the whore sits, **are peoples**, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues. 20: 7-10 add**

*on: when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive **the nations** which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is **as the sand of the sea**. They went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. **The devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever. The sea** of sinful and apparently enormous mankind, mightily manipulated by **the dragon's treacherous craftiness, shall be no more**. All the power of Satan, sin, sinful world and death - disappeared in the process of bringing the ransomed children of our Heavenly Father into the new heaven and earth. The perfect creation replaces the old corrupted world.*

2] And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. The beauty and splendor of this vision seems to be too great for John – to comprehend; let alone – for me. The New Jerusalem is coming from our God. We are told in James 1: 17-18: *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights; in Him is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first-fruits of his creatures.* This Heavenly City is the same Beloved City – the camp of the saints – surrounded by Gog and Magog, in 20: 8-9. Back there, the City was still in the process of preparing: surrounded by Satan's hatred and protected by the Almighty Deliverer's power. Here the City is prepared for more perfect and everlasting unity with Him, the desire of her heart and soul; far away from all evil; away from all past attacks. All of her adornment and ornaments are solely, wholly and forever for her Bridegroom's pleasure. No detail of her beauty is wasted on carnality, vanity and falsehood; all are His love-gift-jewels. As long as the Bride was in preparing for this great

embrace of her Bridegroom's love, **He** was sending pearls, jewels, ointments, and many gifts of everlasting value that no money or perishable gold and silver could ever buy. **He** gifted her with the sunshine-garment of **His** own righteousness and holiness and crowned her with the crown of twelve stars [12]. **He** graced her with fruitfulness to make her instrumental in giving birth to **the Child** that rules over all – from the throne of the **ever-Living God**. **He** prepared for her the place in the wilderness and secured the Bread of Heaven to feed her all the time – until this glorious embrace ushering the dawn of eternal joy and endless adoration of **the Father and the Son**.

3-5] I heard a great voice out of heaven saying: Behold, the tabernacle of **God** is with men; **He** will dwell with them, they shall be **his** people; **God** himself shall be with them, and be their **God**. **God** shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; there shall be no more death, sorrow, weeping, nor any pain: for the former things are passed away. **He** that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And **He** said unto me: Write; for these words are true and faithful. The voice out of Heaven sounds with our **Creator and Savior's** satisfaction, pleasure and joy in **His** great work of saving; just as **He** looked at **His** creation in Genesis 1: every part was **good** and all together was **very good**. Such is our **God's** marvelous work in all **His** deeds. Yes! **God** has appointed the end of all evil. **He** has blissful eternal future for **His** Flock! If we relax and wait idle, or, if we fearfully keep silence and refrain from living and proclaiming the Gospel, we deprive our souls of many blessings and endanger our life by disobedience to our God and rebellion against our Heavenly Father. These visions provide admonishment and encouragement for us to grow in faith and knowledge of God's Son, our Lord. Let us pray to labor and strive in cultivating and harvesting His jewels; the entire Bible is His rich treasure - His gift to us. We see God's tabernacle in Exodus – the 2nd Book, but it has been present since the beginning. The blessed Eden was **His** tabernacle. Abel's altar was our **God's** tabernacle. Noah's ship was **His** tabernacle. All altars of **faith and**

adoration are in His tabernacle. Even the fiery furnace and the den of lions became our God's tabernacle; just like the isle of John's exile. **The everlasting Tabernacle** is in our **Father's** grace **in** His **beloved Son**, our **only** and **all sufficient Ransom**. That is the only 'place' where the fallen Adam's race is brought into the blessed Fellowship of our God's grace and salvation. All structures built according God's instruction - **and** His entire creations are such 'place': our **God is omnipresent**; eternal. In Colossians 2: 16-17 the tabernacle built in Exodus is a shadow of *a reality* to come; but the *substance* is *in* Christ. Let no man therefore judge you in meat, drink, in respect of a holyday, the new moon, or of the Sabbath days: *all these things* are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ. Exodus 25, the LORD spoke unto Moses: [2] Speak unto the children of Israel [8] *to* make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them; [9] according to all that I showed thee. In Hebrews 8: 1] ...We have such a high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; [2] a minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man. [10] This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people... [8] Behold, the days come, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant... 10: 9-10: Then said *the Son*: Lo, I come to do thy will, O God; by *His* will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. In Romans 7: 4 ... my brethren, you should be married to him who is raised from the dead, that we bring forth fruit unto God.

See Ephesians 3. [6] *You*, **Gentiles** should be fellow-heirs, and of **the same body** [*with Israel, prophets and apostles*], and **partakers** of his promise **in Christ** by the gospel... [17] That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, [18] may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, length, depth, and height; [19] To know the **love of Christ**, which **passes knowledge**, that ye might **be**

filled with all the fullness of God. Read *Colossians 3: 9-17*. *Deceive not one another, seeing that ye have put **off the old** man and his deeds; and have put **on the new** man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but **Christ is all, & in all**. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering... Do forbear one another and forgive one another, if any man has a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. Above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. Let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom. Teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing **with grace in your hearts** to the Lord. Whatsoever you do in word or deed, **do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father by him**.* Our Lord's Spirit gave these passages preparing us continually for the **splendor** of His Glory: we **in Him** completely! He is building His Tabernacle in us as long as we are here in our body striving for, praying for and longing for full obedience and harmony with the desire of our souls – our Heavenly Bridegroom. We are not yet the perfected work of our Lord's eternal love and already we have so much to praise Him for His loving, tender, wise and enduring care. Our God is with us in His correction but our very need for His constant correction indicates that we are not with Him all the time. He already wipes away many of our tears, yet we must face the fact that some of our tears are not His Son's motivation; some are still our 'private interests'. God gave us new life in His Son, and we need Him to remove all of our old leaven. Our Father gives us so much comfort. Sadly some of our sadness cannot be comforted: it has to be corrected. Some of our grief might be caused by negligence, wrong spiritual diet or carnal desires. Before we can experience our Lord's comfort, we need to accept His correction. The time is coming for all penitent and correctable children of His Covenant to be delivered from the remaining carnality, vanity,

impatience and all worldly influences and distractions. Our glorious and victorious King is going to triumph as we see in 1st *Corinthians 15: 50-57*. *Now this I [Paul by our Lord's Spirit] say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I show you a **mystery**; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trump**: for the trumpet shall sound, and **the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed**. This corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. When this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: **Death is swallowed up in victory**. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? **The sting of death is sin**; and the strength of sin is the law. Thanks to the Lord our **God**, which **gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ**. Our blessed **Lord** declares from His throne that He **makes all things new**. When did He begin that work? Did He ever quit? Even this Word He gives us daily, is new every day! Blessed be His Name forever! John received our Lord's call to write. We are called to believe, trust, obey, share and proclaim the Eternal Word by desires, deeds, manners and words.*

6-7] He said unto me: It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. **He that overcomes shall inherit all things: I will be his God, and he shall be my son**. 'He', is the Almighty. **What is done? In Romans 4: 17 ...God calls those things which are not as though they were**. In the 2nd *Timothy 1: 9 ...God has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and **grace**, which was **given us in Christ Jesus before the world began**...* In *Ephesians 1: 3-7: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ... According as **HE has chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world**, that we should*

*be holy and without blame before him in love: having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of **his will**, to the praise of the glory of **his grace**, wherein he has made us accepted **in the beloved**.*

In Him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace... Epistle to the Hebrews 4: 2-3 also demand our earnest consideration. *Unto us was the **gospel** preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached **did not profit** them, **not being mixed with faith** in them that heard it. For **we** which have **believed do enter into rest**, as he said: As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the **works were finished from the foundation of the world**. The apostle Peter helps us in his 1st Epistle 1: 18-21. You know that you were not **redeemed** with corruptible things, as silver and gold, but **with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot**: Who verily was **foreordained before the foundation of the world**, but was manifest in these last times for you, who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God. Revelation 13: 8 gives us additional insight. **All upon the earth shall worship him [the beast], whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world**. Our Heavenly Father reveals Himself in His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ as “Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end”. **Alpha** is the **First in Hebrew** and **Omega** is the **End in Greek**! HIS revelation unfolds forever! Abram, the Hebrew, received the blessing of Melchisedec, became **Abraham**, the father of all believers that in his seed – the **Christ** – are blessed to trust and obey **the Living Word** and receive the **Life** forever in the **Son of our Almighty God**. Abel, Enoch, and Noah, the crucified thief, the 144 thousand and the multitude in the white robes – all are included. In Jesus is redemption for all genuine believers. [Genesis 14 & 18; Psalm 110; Hebrews 5: 6-10&20; 7: 1-28;] In Acts 2 the great and everlasting Jubilee confirmed the Ransom accepted by our Heavenly Father and the trumpet*

of the Everlasting Gospel sounds forth: all the redeemed are free to trust & obey our Eternal God's Son; His Spirit guides & protects them. The early Scriptures were recorded in Moses people's language – the Alpha speech. The Revelation is copied in many languages of the Gentiles – the Omega communication. Since Abel – until the last soul delivered from the yoke of sin by the gentle and mighty power of Christ's Holy Spirit, all are included, none is forgotten: **all the saved - are saved in Christ!** In John 1: 1-3, Christ is the Alpha, the Beginning of all ever created; in the following verses, He is the Beginning of the new Life in His Gospel-Light. Where our Lord is the Beginning of the new Life in the heart of a man, there He is the End of the sin-bondage. In these chapters He marks the beginning of His glory for His redeemed & the end of Satan's deceit. Our Lord Jesus invites in *Matthew 11:28-30: Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. My yoke is easy, and my burden is light.* He is still calling the mankind today to the new Beginning of the Life everlasting. In *John 4:14* [He speaks]: *Whosoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.* In *7:37-39* He invites again: *If any man thirsts, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believes on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spoke he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive...)* He is calling today still! In *7:9-17* John see a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stand before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands. In 21 & 22 it is done! They shout: *Salvation to our God which sits upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. All the angels stand round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fall before the throne on their faces, and worship God. They say: Amen! Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power, and might, be unto our God forever and ever. Amen! One of the elders said unto John: What are these which are arrayed*

in white robes and whence they came? These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the Lamb's blood. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple. He that sits on the throne dwells among them. They hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; neither the sun lights on them, or any heat. The Lamb in the midst of the throne feeds them, and leads them unto living fountains of waters; God wiped away all tears of their eyes. Our Heavenly Father is still revealing His glory, majesty, mercy, grace and justice today; all in His beloved Son, our Savior. This Living Water Fountain still overflows abundantly and the blood from His wounds still washes penitent hearts from all sin. Let all the thirsty souls come and drink; let them be washed from all sin & receive His Life everlasting in our King! **He that overcomes inherits all things: the Almighty is his God, and he is a joint heir with Christ. [Romans 8: 17]**

In *John 1:12*, as many as received him, to them **He gave power** to become the sons of God, even to them that **believe on His Name**. In *Luke 11: 9* our Savior says unto us: Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. Every one that asks receives; and he that seeks finds; and to him that knocks it shall be opened. Our Father's grace in Christ endures forever. At His appointed time His call to repentance will be replaced with **His judgment. He that overcomes shall inherit all things; I will be his God, and he shall be my son [7]**. In these few words is contained so much of the entire Bible and of our Heavenly Father's Glory and Majesty manifested in the Lamb of God and the King of kings, our crucified, buried, resurrected and glorified Owner; to Him we belong; to Him we owe soul and body, mind and heart, faithful and wholehearted adoration. What do we need to overcome in order to "inherit all" & what "things"? Some of the prophecies of long ago have been restored for our times in *Jude 1:14-15*. *Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying: Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his saints, to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all*

that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him. We must overcome all our ungodly distractions. We may not waste our Father's gifts for anything; our total stewardship belongs to our Savior and Master. Behold our Lord Jesus in His entire journey in his flesh. In Luke 2:42, when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. 49] He said unto Joseph and Mary: *How is it that you sought me? Knew you not that I must be about my Father's business?* An instruction for our growing in the likeness of His is given to us in many Bible lines. *In Colossians 3: 12-17: As the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. Above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. Let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.* Our Savior's brilliant unity with our Heavenly Father radiates constantly. He tells us in *John 8: 16: My judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me. In 29: He that sent me is with me: the Father has not left me alone; for I do always please him.. In 16: 15: All things that the Father has are mine; in 32: Behold, the hour comes, yea, is now come, that you shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me.* Finally, in *Matthew 26:42: He prayed, saying: O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.* All these bright testimonies reveal to us His leading us **through His victories in our experiences to inherit "all things" – the wealth of His goodness and might** in our journey **now and**, in His glorious Kingdom **forever** and ever! Our Lord says: ***I will be his God, and he shall be***

my son. Our God is the Designer, Author and Finisher of every Godly relationship of His redeemed souls with Him. An early promise of this truth we see in Exodus 6: 6-8 as our Lord commanded to Moses: *Say unto the children of Israel: **I am the LORD**, I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians; I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments: **I will take you to me for a people, and I will be to you a God**: and ye shall know that **I am the LORD your God**, which brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. I will bring you in unto the land, concerning which I did swear to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; I will give it you for a heritage: I am the LORD;* in a few words – a long journey. This is our God's great promise to the fathers, confirmed to their children. Only the faithful Israelites applied their whole heart and entire life to this promise and the promise has been fulfilled to them completely. In Joshua 21:43-45, *The LORD gave unto Israel all the land which he swore to give unto their fathers; and they possessed it, and dwelt therein. The LORD gave them rest round about, according to all that he swore unto their fathers: and there stood not a man of all their enemies before them; the LORD delivered all their enemies into their hand. There failed not ought of any good thing which the LORD had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass.* In 23: 14 this great testimony has been reiterated. *You know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing has failed thereof.*

Since the time we receive the promise until we see the fulfillment, we know that **Christ is in our heart when we live His Gospel wholeheartedly.** Romans 8: 14 is one of many admonishments for us: *As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.* 2nd Corinthians 6: 16-18 contains a sermon in a few words. *You are the temple of the living God; as God has said, I will dwell in them and walk in them: **I will be their God, and they shall be my people.** Come out from among them, [unbelievers] and be ye*

*separate, says the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty. Galatians 2:20 gives us a beautiful example of godliness: I [Paul] am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. Galatians 4: 3-7 ...we were in bondage under the elements of the world: but when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son..., to redeem us, that we might receive the adoption of sons. Because we are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying: Abba, Father. Accordingly, you are ... sons; ...the heirs of God through Christ. Ephesians 4 is filled with admonishments and in the verses 11 – 13 we read that our Lord gave us apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers for the perfecting of the saints... till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the **knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man...** As long as we are pilgrims, we ought to grow in faith & knowledge. We are told in *Philippians 3: 12-14*: *Not as though I [Paul] had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.* In the Revelation 7, our long journey is ending, the inheritance is manifested in its fullness; we see Him as He is: divine Majesty and perfect beauty of Holiness; as we are told in 1st John 3: 2. Beloved, now are we God's sons and it does not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. The most delightful unity of the Bridegroom with the perfected Bride is accomplished and our Heavenly Father's children of the Holy Covenant have been transformed into perfected sons and heirs of His everlasting Kingdom. In the starkest contrast to all that blessedness the verse 8 is flashing like a horror-lightning of the 2nd death, permanent loss of grace. In 1st *Corinthians 6: 9-11* we read: *...The unrighteous shall not**

inherit the kingdom of God...? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortionists, shall inherit the kingdom of God... And such were some of you: but you are washed, you are sanctified, but you are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. Verse 8 provides a revealing list of wickedness manifested as permanent rejection of the saving grace offered in Christ our Savior. That wickedness is the core of stubborn rebellion against our God's order. In this book of symbols this list of eight items: fear, unbelief, abomination, murder, whoredom, sorcery, idolatry and all lies demands our consideration... In this frame of eight sides – parts - of godlessness each part permeates all others and they together constitute a strong prison for multitudes of blind sinners. The first seven are the complete godlessness and the product of the last one. That means the eighth one was the first one and gave birth to the seven. It's interesting to notice: the last are many; not one. All lies make one **religion of all liars – all falsehood-worshippers**. Our Lord Jesus clearly pointed out the originator of that religion in *John 8: 44. ...the devil... was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because in him there is no truth. When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.* **LIE is the foundation of sin.** Believing satanic lie, sinners fear that they might be deprived of sinful pleasures, if they follow righteousness. They trust not God's Word; but **fear persecution and suffering** for an "unreal kingdom and none-existing everlasting life in glory". Believing the devil's lie and disobeying God's Word, sinner is deceived that there is greater pleasure in adultery than in a godly - loving - marriage. Satan's craftiness offers quick satisfaction in selfish lust and cruelty to turn our intensions and efforts away from developing and sharing one relationship of pure, godly desires. Our Lord's Gospel proves the opposite. Godless fear with unbelief hurls sinners into abominable ideas and intensions. Lawlessness is tolerated for a time till it becomes a custom, then a law. The laws of "liberty" become oppression in disguise.

Wickedness is protected but the righteous are persecuted and martyred. Sodom is reenacted but for the righteous judgment of our Holy LORD.
[Deut. 32]

As the strong ropes of godless fear, stubborn unbelief, gross abomination, cruel murders and filthy immorality are used by the devil to entangle his slaves more and more, this dragon brings his beast carrying Babylon, the mother of harlots [Revelation 17], to choke the dying cry of human souls for Light - with deep darkness of sorcery magnifying idolatry... The first lie in the Garden of Eden multiplied its evil seed of decay, destruction and death like the worms of Herod in Acts 12: 23. The Gospel call for repentance has been repeated again and again throughout human history. The faithful witnesses were mocked with false conversions and shallow reforms. Persecutions often revived to protect Babylon-ism. Many signs of our God's displeasure have been ignored and misinterpreted. The time of sin-multiplying ends and our God's divine justice is manifested in its fullness. Sowing seeds of wickedness brings the harvest of fire and brimstone. The second death indicates permanent rejection of our Savior's mercy and everlasting – total separation from His grace.

9-11] One of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues came unto me, and talked with me, saying: Come hither, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife. He carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God: her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal... There are many angels serving our God's purpose. This one belong to the group of seven in the chapter 15 that was revealed to John [and to us] just before the glass and flames-sea-vision with the victorious choir singing the song of Moses and of the Lamb. The correlation between our God's judgment and the victory of His Son seems just inevitable. *Revelation 21: 27* tell us about *the New Jerusalem: There shall in no wise enter into it anything that defiles, neither whatsoever works*

abomination, or makes a lie... *Isaiah* foretold in 35: 8: *A highway shall be there..., and a way of holiness; ...the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.* *Joel* says in 3: 17: ... you shall know your **God dwelling in Zion, His holy mountain:** then shall **Jerusalem** be **holy**, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more. Revealing our perfect future our Lord arms us against our Enemy's lies. Preparing us for the mansions of everlasting joy and adoration our Father supports our desire to grow in faith and knowledge of His Beloved Son. Declaring His perfect – uncompromising - justice and abundant mercy our God keeps us on guard and grateful but He makes the Enemy shiver. If a single sin defiled the New Jerusalem, the perfect holiness could not exist there. If one sinner alone could sneak into the perfect Fellowship named the Bride of the Lamb, the entire redemption would have been marred. The same angels appointed to judge, are also sent to reveal the beauty of our God's holiness and the abundance of His goodness & might. In the 1st 4 verses John sees the New Jerusalem – the Bride adorned for her husband. Now the angel of sevenfold judgment invites John to see the Wife of the Lamb. The angel takes John to a high mountain – way above human carnality and vanity. Our LORD says in *Isaiah 55:8-9:* *My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways, and my thoughts [are higher] than your thoughts.* *Isaiah* speaks this to disobedient men; but even John after so many visions was carried higher to see more and better. 1st 4 verses contain words and phrases like *Bride adorned for her husband, God shall wipe away all tears, no more death, sorrow, crying, and pain...* These expressions bring back memories about our God's people in this world – among sinners - and in the midst of adversities; yet they are named the Holy City, New Jerusalem, descending from God out of Heaven. In the verses 10 and 11 we read about the great city Holy Jerusalem bright like a most precious jasper stone, clear as crystal. Are these the mansions our Lord Jesus told us of in *John 14: 2*? If our Heavenly Father has some equal names and attributes for the mansions and the residents, could it be that

for Him the Kingdom is not complete until all saved get in? When our Lord was creating the Kingdom of Israel, in Exodus 28 and 39 He commanded them to make the breastplate with 12 jewels with the names of the Israel's 12 tribes for the high priest to wear when he enters into the sanctuary before our Lord. Jasper was the last one of the twelve. In the Revelation 4: 3 jasper is one of the heavenly glory-colors. In 22: 1 we see ***a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb***. Here, the Bride, the New Jerusalem, radiates with the beauty and abundance of **His holiness – He bestowed** on her. It seems our Heavenly Father and His beloved Son, our souls' eternal Bridegroom, cannot cease beautifying both the Bride and the Mansion of everlasting praise and adoration of the measureless love that plucked us out of the deepest hell.

Our God placed us into the everlasting embrace of matchless blessedness and splendor that that He, our Creator and Savior, excels forever.

12-13] The City had a great and high wall, and twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel written thereon: on the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. Our Lord reveals so many significant parts and I pray for understanding in His light... Our Lord Jesus teaches in *Luke 13: 28: There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out.* *Luke 16: 19-26* seems to confirm that some parts or persons in the Kingdom might be made visible or perceivable to the forever-tormented souls. *The beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom; the rich man also died, and was buried. In hell he lifts up his eyes, being in torments, and sees Abraham afar off and Lazarus in his bosom. He cried and said: Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue... But Abraham said: Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime received thy good things, and likewise*

Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. Beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us that would come from thence. In the light of these teachings, the meaning and significance of many visions and symbols of the Revelation, and in the scope of the passage 21: 10 – 22: 5 what could be the proper understanding of this **great and high wall**? Verse 3 points to all the redeemed forever united with our God and Savior. Verse 8 tells of the final damnation and the last judgment. This great high wall indicates permanent separation of all the ransomed from the impenitent sin-worshippers. Jericho had huge mighty walls; but they fell because they were under condemnation of our God. The New Jerusalem is the dwelling place of the redeemed and her peace and safety is secured forever. The throne of her King of kings is ever in her center. The City has twelve gates named according to the twelve tribes – all of our God’s people. An angel is at each gate. As long as the Everlasting Gospel of salvation is proclaimed, our Savior’s messengers are calling sinners to seek and receive refuge in His ransom. This City is forever filled with adoration in deepest gratitude & the highest reverence of all saved. The gates are on every side – equally.

Whosoever will, take the Water of Life freely [22: 17]. In John 7:37-39: In the last day, that great day of the feast, [Lord] Jesus stood and cried, saying: If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believes on me, as the scripture hath said, out of him shall flow rivers of living water. (This spoke he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive...) The full number of all who answered to our Redeemer’s call is now in the City. Christ’s promise has been fulfilled abundantly: our Mother with all her children is filled with His Spirit of praise. Our Master teaches in **Matthew 8: 11-12: Many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.** In this City our Lord’s every promise blossoms into perfect fulfillment. Our Lord Jesus says in *John 6:*

37-40: All that the Father gives me shall come to me; and him that comes to me I will in no wise cast out. For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. This is the will of the Father which has sent me, that of all which he has given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. This is the will of him that sent me, that **every one which sees the Son, and believes on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.** None of His promises ever fail. In His presence is joy everlasting.

14] The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. *In Exodus 24: 3-4 Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments: all the people answered with one voice, and said: All the words which the LORD has said we will do. Moses wrote all the words of the LORD, and arose up early in the morning, and built **an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel.** 39: 14 tells about the stones in the breastplate – the significant part of the priestly garments: The **stones were according to the names of the children of Israel, twelve, according to the twelve tribes.** In these passages number ‘**12**’ includes God’s entire nation – Israel His chosen. In *1 Kings 7: 10: The temple foundation was of costly stones, even great stones...**

*Isaiah 28: 16 Tells: Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I lay in Zion for a **foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believes shall not make haste.** In 54: 11 our Lord says to His people: **I will lay thy stones with fair colors, and lay thy foundations with sapphires.** In Hebrews 11: 8-10 ...By faith father Abraham looked for **a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.** These foundations point to the eternal foundation. *1 Corinthians 3: 11* plainly declare: *no man can lay other foundation than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.* In *Ephesians 2: 20-22* we are told: *You are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone. In Him all the building fitly framed together grows unto a holy**

*temple in the Lord: in Him ye also are built together for a habitation of God through the Spirit. **Christ is the Foundation** and all the **redeemed** are **His Bride**; His City. 1 Peter 2: 4-6 confirms: coming to **Christ**, as unto a **living stone**, disallowed indeed of men, but **chosen of God**, and **precious**, you also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, **acceptable to God by Jesus Christ**. It is contained in the scripture: **Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious**: and he that believes on him shall not be confounded. The names of the apostles are forever in the foundation. Their life and death has been built into the Gospel proclamation and testimony; but **the foundation is Christ alone**. The twelve-fold foundation impresses on us the **Truth**: the only begotten **Son of the Father is the One foundation** sufficient for all the ransomed and there is none other; but none other is needed. In Him are our salvation, peace and joy forever.*

15] He that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. I think "The one that talked to" John was still the angel previously mentioned in the verse 9 – one of the seven – delivering the twofold message: the message of plagues, and, revelation of the bliss: consequence of the stubborn rejection of God's mercy and grace, and, the glorious reward for His grace-work in all that trust and obey His Son – our Savior and Lord. The New Jerusalem and the blessed residents in her have similar title: the Husband's Bride [2] and the Lamb's wife [9]. The Lord's City is perfect and we are called to grow in faith and knowledge of our God's Son [Ephesians 4: 1-13]. In *Philippians 3: 13-14* Paul tells us: *Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I **press toward the mark** for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.* Verse 3 is our process & our future. We are not better than the apostles... In *Ephesians 4: 11*] Christ, our Lord, *gave apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers; 12] for the **perfecting of the saints**, for the **edifying of the body of Christ**: 13] till we all come in*

*the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the **Son of God**, unto a **perfect man**, unto **the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ**: 15] that **we may grow up into HIM in all things**, which is **the head, even Christ**; speaking the truth in love... We see our Lord Jesus in Matthew 12:20. **A bruised reed shall He not break**... In Luke 23: 42 the dying sinner said unto our Lord Jesus: *Lord, remember me when thou come into thy kingdom.* 43] Our Blessed Lord replied unto him: *Verily I say unto thee: Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.* He saved and healed the bruised soul. **He** is the **golden reed**, the *perfect man's measure, stature & fullness*. The entire City, the Bride, is His design and He is molding us to fit into His Body, His City; His Bride. In the *Psalm 48: 2* we see *mount Zion beautiful joy of the whole earth, the **city of the great King***. 31: 3: **You are my rock and my fortress**... 61: 3: *You have been a **shelter** for me, and a **strong tower***... 4: *I will abide in your **tabernacle** for ever*... 71: 3: You are my strong habitation, for YOU are my **rock** and my **fortress**. 7: You are my **strong refuge**. Our King is our All in all. The gates of this City are made to His perfect measure. In *John 10: 9* our Blessed Redeemer is **the door**: by Him **if any man enters in, shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture**. This wall is His perfect design. In Ezekiel 40: 1 to 48: 35 is a vision of our God's City; the last words are: *The name of the city from that day shall be: **The LORD is there***. Many details are revealed indicating our Designer's precise care for His City. In *Zechariah 2: 1-5* are also some exciting prophecies. *I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand. Then said I: Where do you go? And he said unto me: To measure Jerusalem, to see what the breadth thereof is, and what is the length thereof. The angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him, and said unto him: Run, say to this young man: Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein: for I, says **the LORD**, will be unto her **a wall of fire round about**, and will be **the glory in the midst of her**.**

Again and again our holy and gracious Lord is our All in all. Down here He is a wall separating us from the world of sin-slavery and uniting us in His Spirit of His holiness, righteousness and faithfulness to make us one as our Heavenly Father and His Only-begotten Son are one [John 10: 30]. In the New Jerusalem the wall of the same grace and power makes it perfect and keeps it perfect to the eternal glory of God our Savior & to everlasting delight of all His blessed worshipers.

16-17] The city lies foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth. He measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. The four sides are equal. In *Matthew 28: 18-20* our Lord *Jesus speaks unto disciples: All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.* In *7: 1-3* John see *four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. Another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea: Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.* The mighty Lamb of God turned the dead humanity tormented by the rage of demons into battlefield of glorious victory; and the lifeless desert-wilderness to fertile soil for the seed of Life and Truth. The victorious Savior halts the final result of rebellion until all His redeemed receive the permanent – everlasting – seal to adore Him in soul, body, mind & heart. The abundant fruits of our Savior's grace are offered to the entire humanity and given to all who have ears to hear, and heart to obey [Luke 8: 8 & Acts 5: 29]. In this world our God's City is open in sight to the

humanity in spite of manmade barriers. In eternity remains the true testimony of the Everlasting Gospel: The Lamb's ransom was offered to all nations. Let us continue in prayers and labor for these perfect dimensions of our Designer to be obvious in our testimony and adoration as we strive and pray to *come into the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of God's Son, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...* [Ephesians 4: 13] Let us be His City on His Holy Sion-hill.

The heavenly messenger measures the City with the golden measure of Christ our Lord. In the sight of our Heavenly Father, as He sees us through the merit of His Son all of our three dimensions are equal: in His work we are open as wide as the opportunities He opens to us; we reach as far and endure as long as He appoints to us; we grow as He blesses us. Even today in our pilgrimage and much more in glory we praise *the breadth, and length, and depth, and height of the love of Christ, which passes knowledge...* [Ephesians 3:16-19] As we read in Romans 11:33-36: *O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor? Who has first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? Of Him, through Him, and to Him, are all things: to whom be glory forever. Amen.* The dimensions of the wall are 144 'cubits'; this is not in miles, nor kilometers; this is measured by the golden reed. The heavenly Fellowship City has been designed to accommodate every member of Christ's Body. In Colossians 1: 9-19 we learn: *Paul ceased not to pray for us, and to desire that we might be filled with the knowledge of God's will...; that we might walk worthy of the Lord...; increasing in the knowledge of God; giving thanks unto the Father, which has made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light... HE has delivered us..., into the Kingdom of his dear Son... All things in heaven, and in earth, were created by Him, and for Him. He is before all things, and by Him all things consist. **He is the head of the body, the church; in all things He has the preeminence. It pleased the Father that in Him all fullness dwells.*** In Revelation 14:1 John sees the Lamb stands on

*the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. The **City** of Christ's Fellowship unites all the ransomed. The City is measured by the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. In 19: 10 John fell at the angel's feet to worship him. The angel said unto John: See thou do it not: I am thy fellow-servant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God... The host of Heaven and the ransomed are of the same measure in worship of the Father and Son.*

18-20] The building of the wall of it was of **jasper**: and the city was **pure gold, like unto clear glass**. The foundations of the **wall** of the **city** were garnished with all manner of **precious stones**. The 1st foundation was **jasper**; the 2nd, a **sapphire**; the 3rd, a **chalcedony**; the 4th, an **emerald**; the 5th, **sardonyx**; the 6th, **sardius**; the 7th, **chrysolite**; the 8th, **beryl**; the 9th, a **topaz**; the 10th, a **chrysoprasus**; the 11th, a **jacinth**; 12th, an **amethyst**. We are looking at the **jasper** stone again! In Exodus 39: 8-14 our Lord instructed Moses to make *the breastplate* with twelve jewels - stones - for the priestly garments: *a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle; an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond; a ligure, an agate, and an amethyst; a beryl, an onyx, and jasper. The stones were according to the names of the children of Israel, twelve, according to the twelve tribes.* In Revelation 4: 3 **He** [on the throne] was to look upon *like jasper and a sardine stone...* In this chapter [v.10] that great city, **the holy Jerusalem**, [v.11] has **the glory of God**: *and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal...* The wall around the Heavenly Jerusalem has been built to our God's glory. It is to God's glory that our Savior has given us guidelines and teachings to stay **away** from every **falsehood**. It is to our Heavenly **Father's glory** that only the **blood of God's Lamb cleanses** all that receive the citizenship of the City. The citizens' **unity in the Holy Spirit** signified by the wall is to the **glory of the Father and the Son**. As our Master teaches us in *Matthew 5: 13-14: You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world. A city ...on a hill cannot be hid. No man-*

made walls can unite the children of the Holy Covenant. Man-made wall protects a man-made city and both must perish like Jericho in Joshua 6. The children respecting the guidelines and boundaries set by the One on the throne, the **ONE** jasper-like **in the beauty of His Holiness** [4: 13] are **inside** the true wall – the secured **Christ's Spirit-Fellowship**. Inside this wall is the Golden City of God. Her gold is not the perishable gold we read about in 1st Peter's 1: 18. This Gold is the eternal love of our Heavenly Father in His Beloved Son given to His ransomed children. This Gold is pure: since the endless eternity and through the endless eternity in Him has been and forever is pure and perfect love for **all in His Son**. This **Gold** is fully **transparent**. This **Gold** was **tested** on Golgotha and nothing but **pure Gold** was **manifested** in the sight of the entire heavenly host; **the prince of this world hath nothing in Jesus** [John 14: 30]. This Gold is our **Father's** most precious Treasure – the **Ransom for His Son's Bride**. So, we know that **only His love makes us true citizens of His City**. Man-built walls might be decorated above the ground... The **wall of God's City** is built **upon the most beautiful foundations**. Let us pray for deeper insight into the beauty of our Creator and Savior's holiness that we might become more fervent in our prayers seeking His purification in our heart and mind, soul and body as **He prepares us for His City**. The first foundation is **jasper**. The beauty of His holiness is the same in its foundation as in the sight [21: 11]. The first and foremost is **His Holiness** and **His righteousness** in the first foundation. If we have any godliness it's **all in Him** and **nothing apart from Him**. Our God's holiness has no spots or blemishes; His City rests upon His everlasting righteousness. **Jasper** of the first foundation and **jasper**, the last **in the breastplate** encircle all the ransomed. The earliest believers like Abel and Enoch are as much in the heart of our Great High Priest, as the last one brought in before the end-time. Those hired first in Matthew 20: 1, early in the morning and the last laborers hired the 11th hour [v. 6] are equally rewarded according to the Master's goodness [v. 16]. The life-long disciples and the crucified thief depend on our God's mercy. **Sapphire** is the 2nd foundation. In *Exodus 24: 9-10 Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and*

*seventy elders of Israel saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it was paved works of a **sapphire** stone; as it were the **body of heaven in his clearness**. In 39: 10-13 the **12 precious stones** are in the breast-plate set in four rows: a **sardius**, a **topaz**, a **carbuncle**, an **emerald**, a **sapphire**, a **diamond**, a **ligure**, an **agate**, an **amethyst**, a **beryl**, an **onyx**, and **jasper**. In Ezekiel 1:26 is a vision. Above the firmament over the heads of the cherubim was the likeness of a **throne**, as the appearance of a **sapphire stone**: and upon the likeness of the throne was the likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it. Ezekiel has seen another vision in 10: 1. In the firmament that was above the heads of the cherubim there appeared as it were a **sapphire stone**, as the appearance of the likeness of a **throne**. **Sapphire signifies God's Majesty** adored by the entire universe. Chalcedony, sardonyx, chrysolite, chrysoprasus and jacinth, I have not found in any other place in the Book. I perceive difficulties of the translators; yet I have confidence in our Lord's goodness and might in preserving the Spirit of His Word. In *Colossians 2: 6-12* we read: *As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk you in him, for in him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. In him also you are circumcised, buried with him in baptism; raised with him.**

Not only the foreshadowing images of the ordinances given to Israel signify the fullness in Christ our Lord, but also His own journey in His flesh reveals and confirms His reality in our journey; but the shadows are not a perfect and in all details complete forecast of the reality: some parts were applications **for Israel of that time and location**; but not for us. It is evident that the **fullness** contains **more** essence **than** we see evidenced in the foreshadowing **images** of ordinances. After each segment of any Bible book I have studied and expounded I had a clear sense that **I have touched only** the surface of the **unsearchable depth** in my desire to understand more and to encourage all the users of this site to keep on seeking our Lord's guidance. John certainly received more and brighter revelation than we can understand [ch. 10: 4]. The abundance of our God's grace, His

unsearchable wisdom, His Majesty and the beauty of His Holiness are signified by these precious stones as the everlasting attributes of the Almighty. To Him belong power, government and adoration forever; to Him we owe our soul and body, mind and heart: He has created and redeemed us; He is our blessedness...

21-23] The twelve gates were twelve pearls; every gate - one pearl. The street of the city was pure gold, as it was transparent glass. I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb is the temple of it. The city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. The final part of Ezekiel's vision in 48: 30-35 tells about the twelve gates of Jerusalem. In this chapter we see our God's visions revealed to the holy prophets - fulfilled in Christ our Lord. In the perfect fulfillment of our Father's grace in Christ to all of His children, every gate is one pearl: measureless eternal value to all who enter in trusting and obeying the Son. Our Lord Jesus speaks of one gate only in Matthew 7: 13-14. Enter you in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leads to destruction, and many there be which go in there at: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leads unto life, and few there be that find it. In John 10: 7 He says: I am the door of the sheep. In the unique personal title and work of our Savior and Lord He is the one and only Gate to salvation and life eternal. In the twelve gates of the Jerusalem wall we see our Lord's sufficiency for the salvation of all His ransomed. From every walk of human life in the world of sinners, every ethnicity, social and material position, whoever comes to our Savior, the Gate is open to sincere, genuine, penitent seeker of salvation. The city street was pure transparent gold like glass. In this focus we see no cross streets: here is the perfect harmony of our Lord's Spirit. John sees *no temple therein: our Lord God Almighty and the Lamb is the temple of it.* In Exodus 40: 33-34 *Moses reared up the tabernacle and the altar... So Moses finished the work. Then a cloud covered the tent..., and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.* 1st

Corinthians 3:16 tells us: *...you are the temple of God ...the Spirit of God dwells in you, and in 6:19: your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost...* Here, *the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb is the temple of His City* and this City is the Bride – the ransomed and changed People of God [1st *Corinthians 15: 51-57*]. Here they're in perfect unity with the Bridegroom. In the wonderful world our Creator made in Genesis, sunshine graced man's daily labor; and moonshine blessed their peaceful rest. In this glorious New Jerusalem there is no sunset of our **Father's Son** of righteousness. In Him the **Father's glory is ever bright** and here **the ransomed Bride is forever in the delightful embrace of His eternal love and grace**. The jubilant praises in 4: 11, 5: 9 & 12: ***Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for thou hast created all things; Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou was slain, and has redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, tongue, people, and nation; Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, riches, wisdom, strength, honor, glory, and blessing; Blessing, honor, glory, and power unto Him upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever.*** Our **Almighty God** forever rewards His **Lamb's victory** in His ransomed fellow heirs.

24-27] The nations of the saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it. The gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. They shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it. There shall in no wise enter into it anything that defiles, neither whatsoever works abomination, or makes a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life. *Isaiah 19: 22-25* is an amazing, mysterious prophecy. *The LORD shall smite Egypt: he shall smite and heal it: and they shall return even to the LORD, and he shall be entreated of them, and shall heal them.*

*In that day shall there be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians. In that day shall **Israel** be the third*

with Egypt and with Assyria, even a blessing in the midst of the land: whom the LORD of hosts shall bless, saying: Blessed be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel mine inheritance. Our Lord Jesus says in Matthew 28:19: Go you and teach all nations... In [ch.] 7: 9 *John beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands... There is room for all the ransomed.* There is no vacancy at all! Our God speaks in *Isaiah 55: 11-13: My word shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. You shall go out with joy..., led forth with peace... Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off. The glory of the saved is their Savior!* As in so many passages, here also the Revelation includes many dimensions: testimony of the past times, prophecy for the future, and enlightenment to our understanding of the entire Holy Scripture – including the Revelation; amazing is the Word of God, our Creator and Savior. In the New Jerusalem all the redeemed walk in the perfect light of the Lamb. While we are here, we have the revealed Truth, the Gospel of salvation in Christ the Son of the Father. All disciples walking in His Light are on the path of life everlasting; that is our reliable testimony and assurance of belonging to His Family – His bride and being the members of His Body – the true Church. Our pilgrimage is blessed; our future in glory. Who are *the kings of the earth* that do *bring their glory and honor into it.* There were a few kings in the recorded history with the testimony of our God's glory in their rule. I perceive that the majority among the kings that bring their glory and honor into the New Jerusalem are recorded in [ch.] 5: 6-14; especially 10: *The Lamb hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.* From Able and Enoch to Stephen and John – all are kings with glory in Christ. The gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. Since our fall until our Redeemer

spell the end of rebellion, every gate is open in Him Who has said: ***I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture [John 10: 9].*** Let us live and proclaim the Gospel; let us herald the judgment day. The gates are still open for genuine seekers: whosoever will, may come; as our Master tells us in *Mark 3: 35: Whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, sister and mother; and in 8: 34-35: Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. Whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.* “Whosoever will” ends on earth; “saved by grace” remains in glory with our blessed Lord forever. Perhaps in that City of everlasting joy and adoration the twelve open gates will forever testify that only stubborn rebels remained outside because they refused our Father’s grace offered in the Savior. The open gates witness to all that the blessed ransomed citizens live in joy, not by compulsion, but because they would not exchange it for any other place. They shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it. Again, the glory of the saved nations in all generations is our **King of kings and Lord of lords**: in loyalty to Him we are prepared to live and die down here for **He is our blessedness**. Our elder brother Peter rejoiced in our Lord’s revelation in *Acts 10: 34-35: Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that fears him, and works righteousness, is accepted with him. Whosoever believes on him shall not be ashamed. There is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved [Romans 10: 11-13]. Glory to God!* There shall in no wise enter into it anything that defiles neither whatsoever works abomination, or makes a lie... These words could be just one additional question concerning our place and position in the sight of our Creator and Savior if the following words in the same sentence would not point our attention to the Lamb of God, the only worthy Ransom. If this verse [27] is an answer to the ever repeated question; a very important question: Am I acceptable to my Creator, or, am I going to experience an enormous disappointing and

horrifying surprise; am I ready for His eternal reward or, am I preparing myself for everlasting condemnation. If all defilements are 'outside' where am I? The whole Bible answers... My entire journey through this world is a continuous test revealing to me my standing or falling in my relationship with my God; the Scriptures provide for me the proper – correct – reading of the test-results.

Ezekiel 33 covers the entire humanity. Verses 13 – 16 reveal my-own individual position before my Creator, my Judge or, my Savior, my Redeemer. Trusting in the mercy and the saving and sustaining grace of our Father in Christ is coupled with wholehearted labor to be faithful and fruitful in our stewardship. Trusting in my own righteousness is a snare of our Enemy. Our Lord tells us in Luke 18: 9-14. He speaks this parable unto certain which trust in themselves that they are righteous, and despise others. *Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus within himself: God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice each week; I give tithes of all that I possess. The publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote his breast, saying: God be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalts him-self is abased; and he that humbles himself shall is exalted.* Among **all worshippers around the throne**, none exalts him-self: all **glorify the One worthy...** *God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth; but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us [1 John 1: 5-10]. Beloved, now are we the sons of*

*God and it does not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is [1 John 3: 2]. **The New Jerusalem is the City of all the written in the Lamb's book of life.** When we understand and believe these facts, we join the blessed worshippers around His throne in *Revelation 4: 11: Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, honor and power: for thou hast created all things; for thy pleasure they are and were created. 5: 9-12: Thou art worthy... Thou were slain, and have redeemed us to God by thy blood and have made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth. Power, riches, wisdom, strength, honor, glory, and blessing to the Lamb.* The Lamb slain since the foundations of the world remains forever our All in all, our Father's glory.*